Statehood for Delhi

1676. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi MetropolitanCouncil recently passed a resolution demanding Statehood for Delhi; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. However, a resolution that Delhi be granted Legistative Assembly, was passed by the Metropolitan Council on 3 June, 1988.

(b) The Sarkaria Committee has been set up to consider and make recommendations for re-organising and rationalising the administrative and municipal set up of Delhi. However, there is no propbsal under consideration to grant Statehood to Delhi.

Success of Ganga action plan

1677. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some senior officials of the Bihar State Wastage and Sewage Disposal Board have expressed doubts about the ultimate success of the Ganga Action Plan; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for these doubts and what action has been taken by the Central Government to implement the project successfully?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government are not aware of any doubts expressed by senior officials of the Bihar State Wastage and Sewage Disposal Board about the ultimate success of the Ganga Action Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

Meeting of the Indo-Japan Standing Committee held in Tokyo

1678. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Indo-Japan Standing Committee was held in Tokyo recently;

(b) whether any action plan has been agreed upon to promote Indo-Japanese trade and exports to third world countries; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Four Working Groups on Fresh Fruits and Vegetable, Readymade Garments; Engineering Goods; and Leather Products were constituted in the 20th Meeting of I.J.B.C.C. held in December, 1987 to suggest ways and means to increase Indian exports of these items to Japan. The Groups have further exchanged information/held discussions relating to identification of specific items of exports, their price and quality competiveness, export promotion measures, market potential and marketing strategy etc.

IDBI loan in foreign exchange for new units

1679. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has decided to make available foreign exchange loans at a fixed rate of interest to new units and provide protection to entrepreneurs from foreign exchange rate fluctuations;

(b) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India has requested the Bank to extend such relief to the projects set up during the last three-four years; and

(c) if so, what decison has been taken there by the bank?